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How far Spain and France swerved from the line of ecclesiastical direction is slightly touched upon by the editor (pp. 59, 60, 72). But, as to the enunciation of such principles in many of the papers which are here catalogued, the historical student will find it, at least as clear, and certainly not less broad, than the statements of a more secular kind which may be seen in the merely political administration of a great and well-governed empire. It is obvious that, when these principles as they recur have been discerned by the historian, his mind will be able to move in one true current of events.

In the third place, the *Guide* before us furnishes very many elements of fact, as might be expected from the documents of Rome, whither all roads ran. But, quite incidentally, the book shows why great reserve is practised in the communication of documents; and we might even suspect that the same reason could lead to the deliberate destruction of them (p. 120, *ad* note 6). It is that disparaging reflections or charges, with nothing adequate to support them, may be found recorded to the prejudice of individuals or classes—furnishing another illustration of what we have just said about the lonely and misleading document. Again, in an incidental way, the book illustrates another point, how valuable folios disappear from the collections—showing the wear and tear, not to use a stronger word, that is going on in archives open to the public (*e. g.*, p. 47, no. 102, ff. 36–46).

Not a few Italian passages being reproduced in the *Guide*, we should have wished that, if they stand in the documents as they are here, the learned editor had either indicated in the usual way that so indeed they stand, or had subjoined the corrections for the faulty text. As instances, we mention p. 72, note 66; p. 118, l. 6; p. 122, l. 7; p. 183, no. 135; p. 234; p. 241. Among names, Beamans should be Peemans; Nundwiler should be Mundwiler.¹

THOMAS HUGHES, S.J.

Minutes of the Executive Council of the Province of New York. Administration of Francis Lovelace, 1668–1673. Volumes I. and II. Edited by VICTOR HUGO PALTSITS, State Historian. (Albany: published by the State of New York. 1910. Pp. 1–386; xii, 387–806.)

IN these volumes Mr. Paltsits has edited the council minutes of New York during the governorship of Francis Lovelace. To the text of the minutes he has contributed elaborate and helpful annotations, and in order to render intelligible the frequently meagre entries he has added a large number of collateral and illustrative documents filling two-thirds

¹ P. 157, note 56, on Propaganda document: "260. America; ff. 33–37, 'Descriptio Missionis Accadiae in Nova Gallia'." The photographic reproduction here referred to may be seen, according to our own private notes, in the Georgetown College Transcripts, under the date, 1656. We do not suppose that the document was ever published.

of the total space. In the case of the Dutch documents he has placed a translation in a parallel column. He has included in the work two portraits, of James, duke of York, and of Cornelis Steenwijk, mayor of New York city, 1668-1670, many facsimiles of documents, which bear graphic witness to the difficulties of his task, and two pocket maps, one, from the British Museum, of the island of Manhattan with an inset of the city, and the other, from the Harvard Library, a general map of the region north of Virginia with an inset view of New York. The originals of both maps are well known, but have never before been reproduced in full size.

These volumes were planned to inaugurate a series containing the executive council minutes of New York during the colonial period. For the administration of Nicolls no minutes are known to exist, but with a few significant exceptions the list was continuous from 1668 to the Revolution. Such a series executed with Mr. Paltsits's instinct for completeness, accuracy, and high regard for technical form would have formed a substantial and noteworthy contribution to colonial history, but the undertaking will not be carried out under the present auspices. The fire in the New York State Library destroyed ninety per cent. of the documents upon which Mr. Paltsits largely depended, and though the minutes themselves, for the years after 1686, are duplicated in London and so can readily be obtained, the material which renders the present volumes of such unusual importance is gone beyond recall.

The minutes here printed are an index to the executive activities of the period and show the extent to which Lovelace and his council administered the affairs of the province. Except for strictly local concerns control lay in the hands of this body sitting in the fort of St. James. It watched over the affairs of a scattered group of towns and territories, occupied by English, Dutch, and Swedes, and menaced by the presence of discontents within and Indians both within and without. The board exercised a great variety of judicial, administrative and military functions, combining in one the duties of a privy council and a justice of the peace in England.

Of particular interest are the relations of the board with the towns and outlying territories. Lovelace appointed subordinate commissions for the management of Esopus and the adjoining Dutch communities; of the large number of documents here printed throwing light on the organization of those communities Elting knew nothing. Of no less interest are the papers relating to Martha's Vineyard, Nantucket, and other islands, covering more than thirty pages, particularly those defining the government of Nantucket in 1673. The board erected a court at Newcastle on the Delaware, issued the necessary instructions, and mapped out the proper forms to be used in cases of trial.

The Dutch were naturally a source of serious concern to the government. Lovelace could honestly say, "Wee cannot expect they love us", and he issued stringent instructions to look out for breaches of the peace and cases of "scandalous defamation", and to watch for the

"rising up of those seedes of distrust and jealousie amongst us". In view of the scattered character of the province—extending from Schenectady to Newcastle and from "Breucklyn" to Nantucket, we cannot charge him with arbitrary conduct, when we find him instructing his commissioners "not to follow yo^r owne humo^r but my ord^{rs}", or when as in his dealings with the Long Island towns of New England origin he greeted impatiently their unwillingness to aid in the defence of the province.

There are a few points of minor interest. We find references to the manor of Fordham and to the manor of Fox Hall, the latter created an "enfranchised" manor free from the jurisdiction of any town court and subject only to the court of assizes (p. 760). We meet with quit-rents (pp. 97, 99, 115, 122), the farming of the excise (pp. 82, 83, 187, 548, 626), possession by turf and twig (p. 49), censuses of New York (pp. 58, 89), and convoy arrangements as early as 1672 (pp. 695, 697). Mr. Paltsits might have told us the meaning of "Pluck Money" (p. 65) and the derivation of "Weesmaster" or "Curemaster" (pp. 99, 168, 186, 790), though the duties are clear enough. I notice only one error: Capt. John Seaman of Hempstead came originally not from "the eastern end of Long Island" (p. 73, note 1), but from Wethersfield, accompanying the Rev. Richard Denton, first to Stamford and then to Hempstead.

CHARLES M. ANDREWS.

The Wilderness Trail, or the Ventures and Adventures of the Pennsylvania Traders on the Allegheny Path, with Some New Annals of the Old West, and the Records of Some Strong Men and Some Bad Ones. By CHARLES A. HANNA. In two volumes. (New York and London: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1911. Pp. xxiv, 383; vi, 457.)

WHAT Parkman has done for the French traders along the Great Lakes routes, Mr. Hanna attempts for the Pennsylvania and Ohio traders in tracing their routes, describing their conditions, and portraying their vicissitudes. The title is slightly misleading since it apparently refers to one path or trail, whereas the two volumes give consideration to all trading paths and Indian trails of Pennsylvania, Maryland, northern Virginia, Ohio, and Kentucky. A more exact title would have been "The Pennsylvania Traders", since most of the men engaged in that occupation in those colonies made their headquarters in Pennsylvania. The volumes belong to the growing literature based upon the expansion of the people and a due consideration of the effects of geography upon local history. Being confined to a small space and one class of people, the study becomes intensive, exhaustive, and trustworthy through contemporaneous testimony.

One of the many excellent maps shows the location of the principal trading paths. A glance at the network overspreading Pennsyl-